

**7. Rehabilitate the fish ladder in the Capitol Lake dam to provide year-round fish passage into and out of Capitol Lake.** *[For additional information regarding this objective, refer to pages 5-1 to 5-3 in the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan - 1999 to 2001 (1999).]*

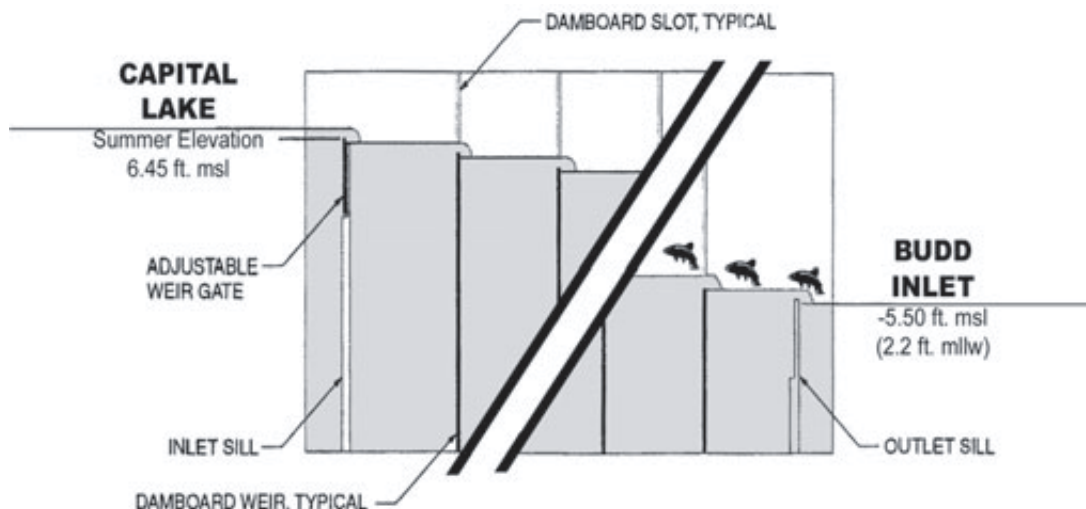
**BACKGROUND**

In 2000 GA partnered with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to upgrade the fish ladder in the Capitol Lake dam. Unrestricted fish access into and out of the basin has been a problem during the winter months due to the lake being lowered one foot to provide added flood protection. An initial evaluation by WDFW indicated that the fish ladder could be restored to about 90 percent effectiveness by simply replacing the worn out weirs (which create the small pools in the fish ladder) and maintaining a constant lake elevation.

Repairs to the fish ladder were not possible in 2000, so temporary repairs were made that year. In 2001 a consultant developed a scope of work for how the fish ladder could best be repaired. This report confirmed WDFW's observations that the needed repairs were relatively minor. The report suggested 1) debris removal, 2) replacement of the wooden weirs with recycled plastic weirs, and 3) minor changes to the lake inlet at the top end of the ladder.

GA has been working with WDFW to repair the fish ladder within its present configuration. These proposed repairs could be made during the "fish window" of June through September 2002. To help prevent future damage to the repaired fish ladder GA plans to install a debris collection barrier in front of the dam to collect floating logs and other material that could harm the fish ladder. In addition, periodic underwater material debris collection will be necessary to ensure the functionality of the ladder. These repairs are projected to cost \$100,000.

**FISH LADDER - CROSS SECTION**



**Activities in Years 2003 - 2005:**

General Administration may have to hire a contractor to inspect the fish ladder yearly and remove problem debris in a timely fashion.

**CLAMP Budget 2003 - 2005:**

A contract for fish ladder preservation and repair will cost General Administration \$25,000 per biennium.

**Activities in Years 2005 - 2013:**

Continue contracting for ongoing preservation and repair for the dam.

**CLAMP Budget 2005 - 2013:**

Estimated at \$120,000 for this period.



*Capitol Lake dam from the lake side c. 1998. Courtesy of General Administration.*